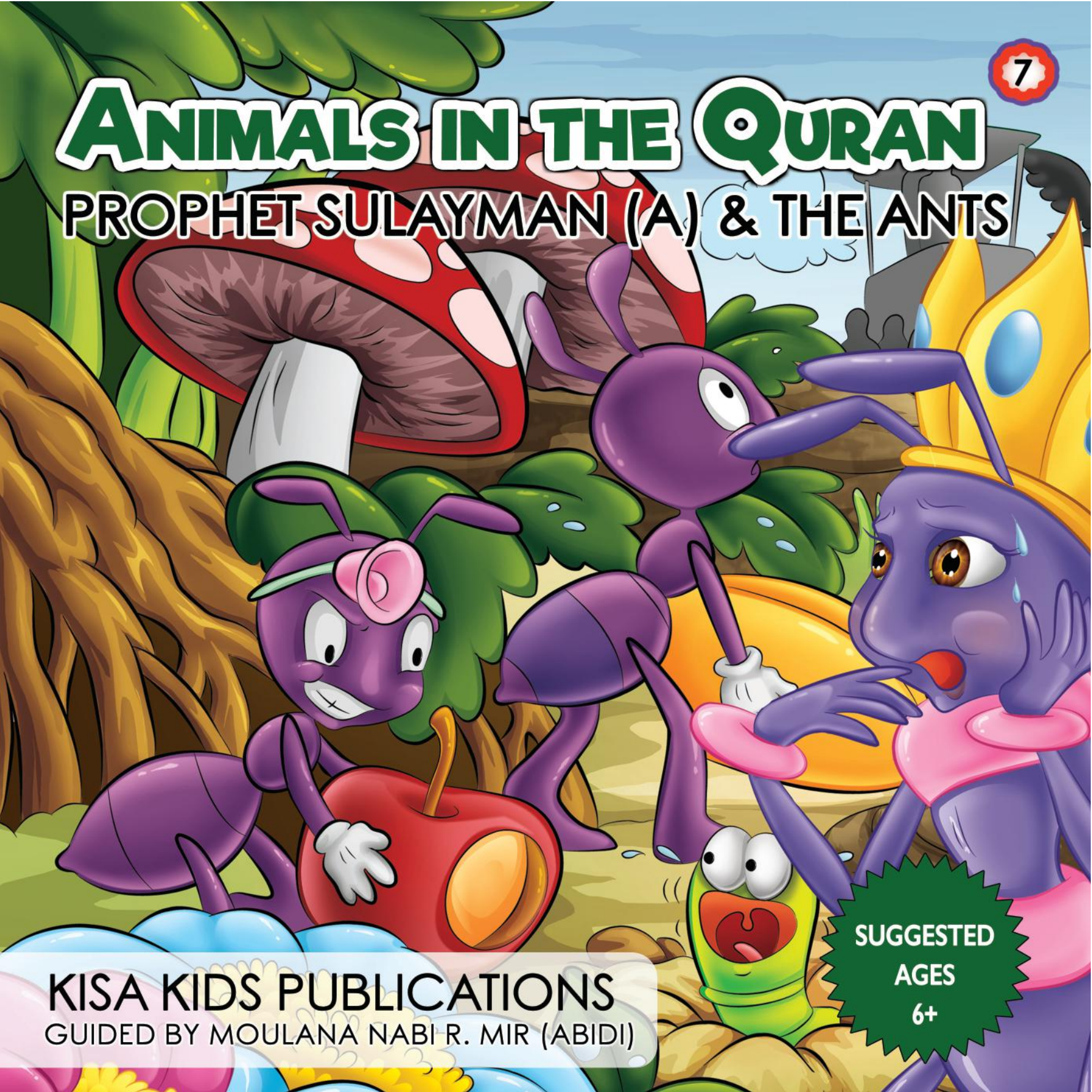
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ANIMALS IN THE QURAN
PROPHET SULAYMAN (A) & THE ANTS
SUGGESTED AGES 6+
KISA KIDS PUBLICATIONS
GUIDED BY MOULANA NABI R. MIR (ABIDI)

Disclaimer: Religious texts have ***not*** been translated verbatim so as to meet the developmental and comprehension needs of children.

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the beloved Imām of our time (ʿaj). May Allah (swt) hasten his reappearance and help us to become his true companions.

Original Author

Brother Alāʾ Jaʿfarī

Acknowledgements

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): On the Day of Resurrection, the ink of the scholars will be weighed up against the blood of the martyrs, and the ink of the scholars will be heavier than the blood of the martyrs.

Nahj al-Faṣāḥah, Saying #3222.

True reward lies with Allah, but we would like to sincerely thank the efforts of Shaykh Salim Yusufali, Sisters Sabika Mithani, Liliana Villalvazo, Sarah Ali, Amna Hussain, Zainab Mithani, Zahra Sabur, Sajeda Merchant, Fathema Abidi, Fatemeh Eslami, Kisae Nazar, Abeda Khimji, Zehra Abbas, Zainab Hussain, and Fatima Hussain. We would especially like to thank Nainawa Publications for their artwork and contributions
May Allah bless them in this world and the next.

Marḥūmīn Dedication

Please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah for the marḥūmīn of the Talebi family

Preface

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): Nurture and raise your children in the best way. Raise them with the love of the Prophets and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

Literature is an influential form of media that often shapes the thoughts and views of an entire generation. Therefore, in order to establish an Islamic foundation for the future generations, there is a dire need for compelling Islamic literature. Over the past several years, this need has become increasingly prevalent throughout Islamic centers and schools everywhere. Due to the growing dissonance between parents, children, society, and the teachings of Islam and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), this need has become even more pressing. Al-Kisa Foundation, along with its subsidiary, Kisa Kids Publications, was conceived in an effort to help bridge this gap with the guidance of ʿulamāʾ and the help of educators. We would like to make this a communal effort and platform. Therefore, we sincerely welcome constructive feedback and help in any capacity.

The goal of *Animals in the Quran* is to strengthen children's understanding of how Allah is All-Powerful and All-Wise, thus strengthening their tawakkul and reliance. We hope that you and your children enjoy these books and use them as a means to achieve this goal, inshāʾAllāh.

We pray to Allah to give us the strength and tawfīq to perform our duties and responsibilities.

With Duʾās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

About the Board ʿĀlim

Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi) is a scholar, an educator, a father, and an enthusiast for creating educational infrastructure and Islamic resources for the benefit of the global community. Always wanting to think outside the box by supporting the creation of innovative materials to engage young readers to pick up Islamic books, interact with Qurʾānic games, learn from the Steps to Perfection Curriculum and begin their life long journey of holistic education.

Being a dedicated student and graduate of Darse Khārij from Ḥawzah, Moulana Abidi knows the value of Islamic education. Also, growing up in India while now residing in the United States, he has had the honor to meet with various communities and community leaders, and values the importance of collaboration and working together to optimize potentials and to create open source platforms so information and resources are available and accessible to all.

* * *

You, dear reader, are now part of the Al-Kisa family. Share the word, and join the mission.

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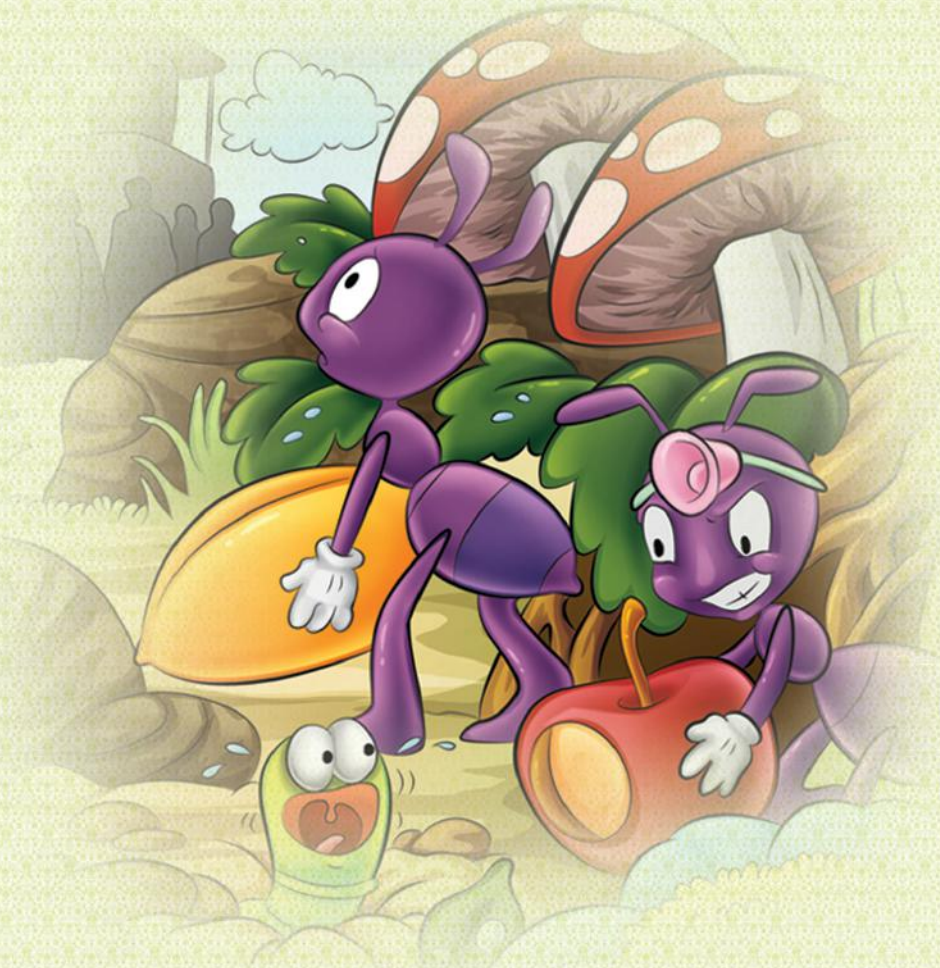
ANIMALS IN THE QURAN

PROPHET SULAYMAN (A) & THE ANTS



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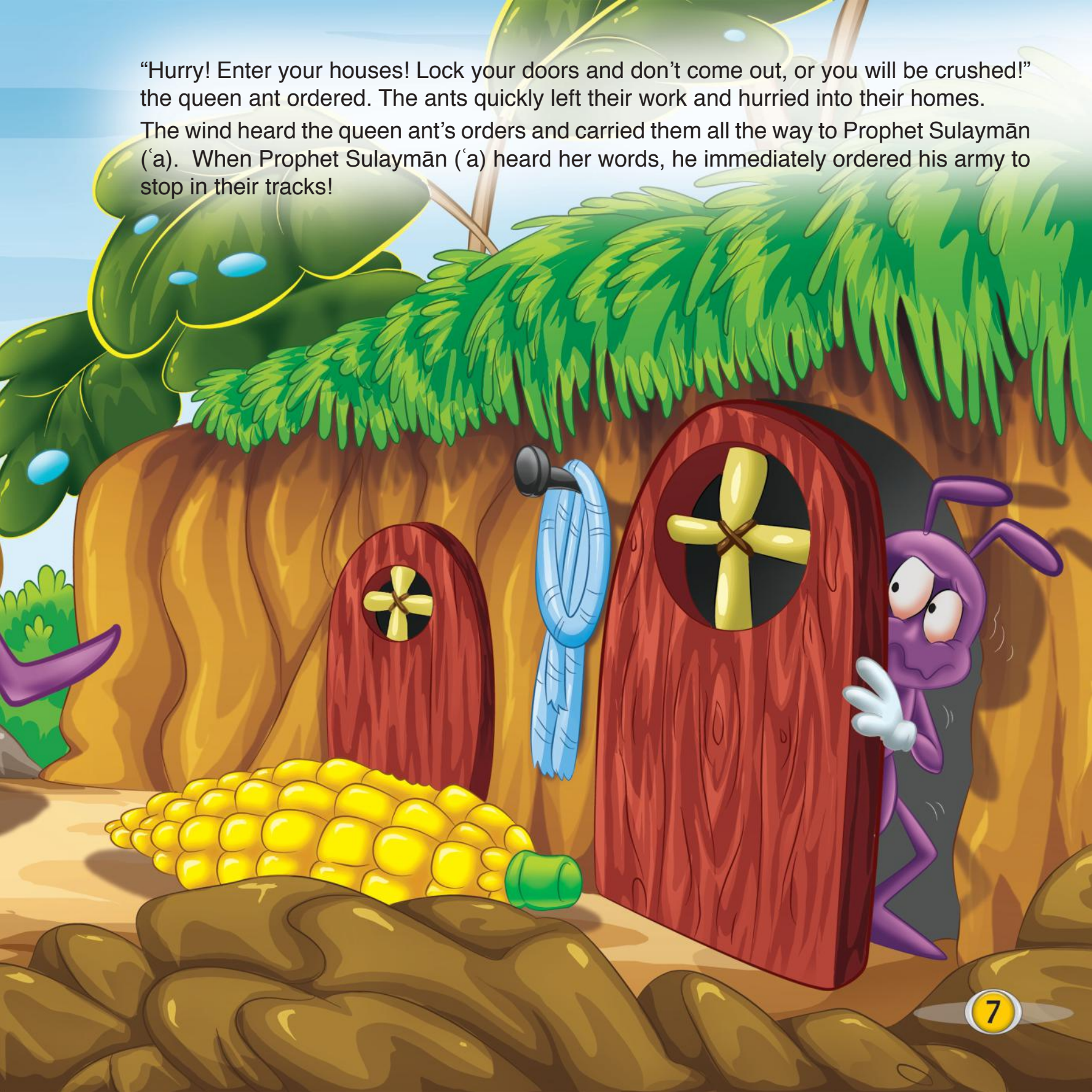
Long ago, there lived a large colony of hard-working ants. Every day, the ants would work together to collect food and store it for the winter. They worked all day long! They would start when the sun came up and go home after sunset. Allah created ants to work together and be organized so their colony could run smoothly.

In this colony, there was one special ant, the queen ant! All the other ants would listen to her and follow her instructions.

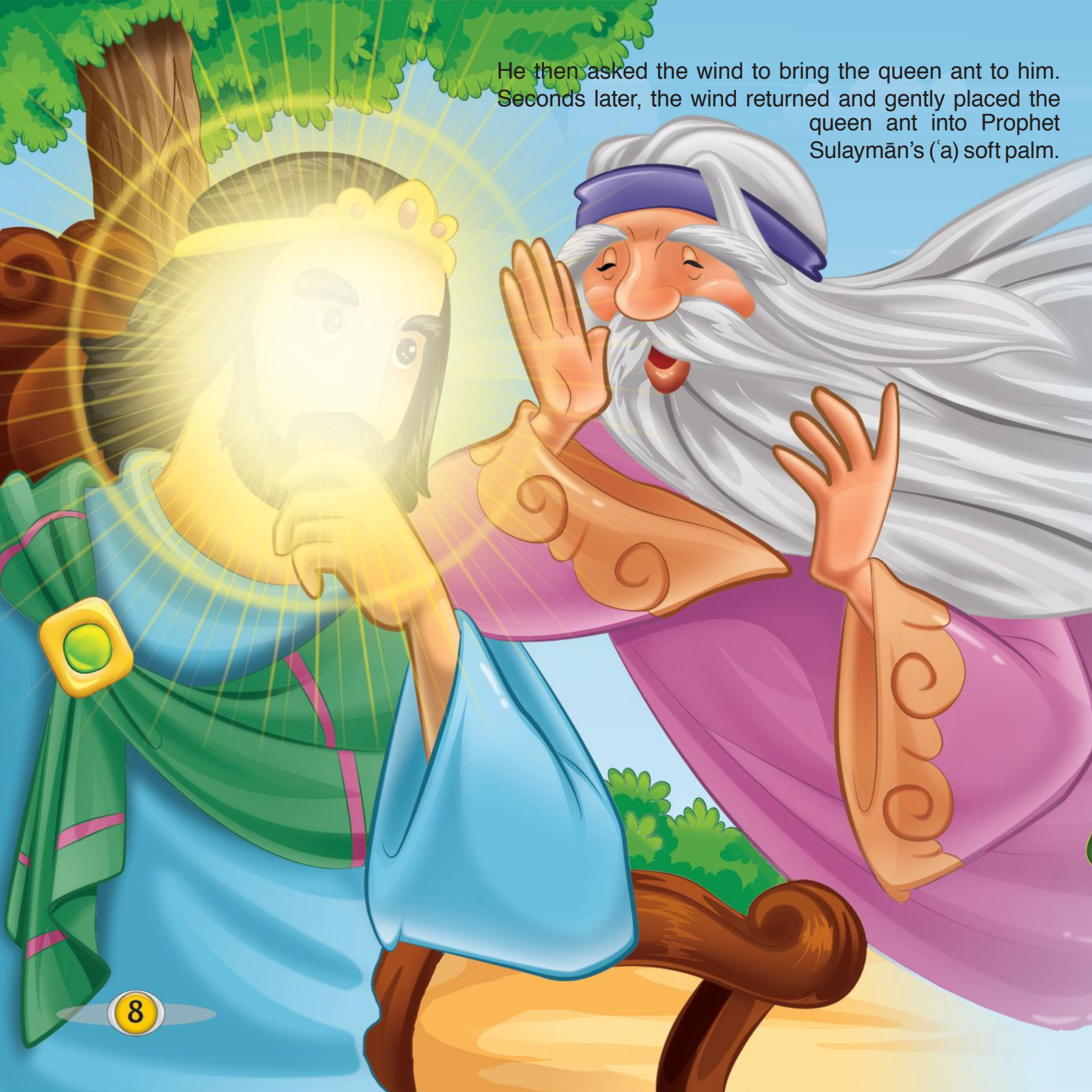
One day, Prophet Sulaymān (ʿa)* was passing by with his giant army of humans and animals. When the queen ant saw the army coming close, she became very scared! Prophet Sulaymān's (ʿa) army was so large, and the ants were so small! She knew she had to act quickly or they would all get squished!

Pronunciation Guide:
ā is an elongated "a" sound, like "aa"
a comes from the middle of the throat



“Hurry! Enter your houses! Lock your doors and don’t come out, or you will be crushed!” the queen ant ordered. The ants quickly left their work and hurried into their homes.

The wind heard the queen ant’s orders and carried them all the way to Prophet Sulaymān (ʿa). When Prophet Sulaymān (ʿa) heard her words, he immediately ordered his army to stop in their tracks!



He then asked the wind to bring the queen ant to him. Seconds later, the wind returned and gently placed the queen ant into Prophet Sulaymān's (ʿa) soft palm.

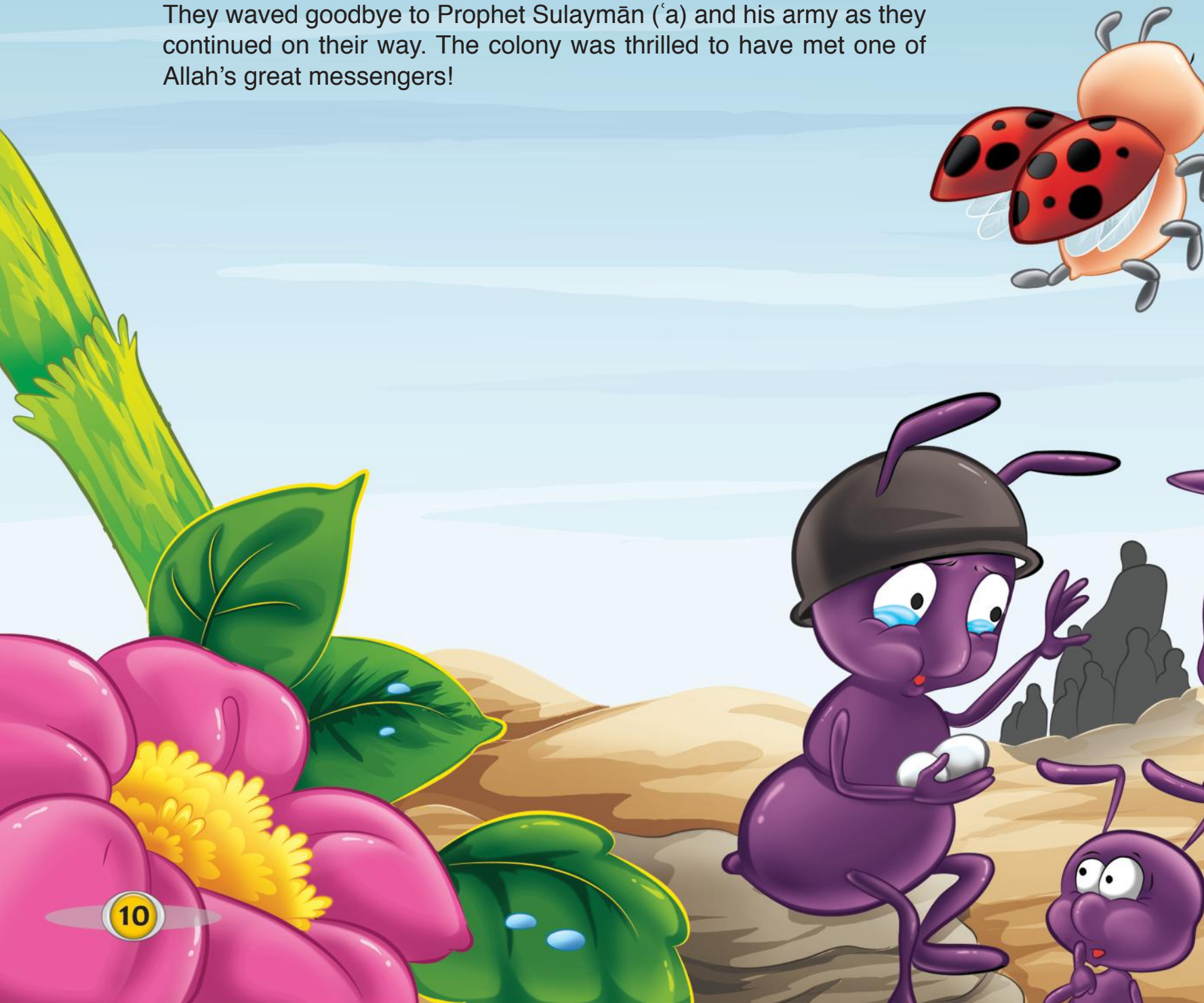
Prophet Sulaymān (ʿa) could understand and speak to all creatures! So, he leaned down and asked the queen ant, “Don’t you know that I am a Prophet of Allah? I could never hurt anyone, not even a small ant!”

The queen ant replied, “Yes, of course, O Prophet! I wasn’t scared that you would try to hurt us. I was scared that my ants would be so amazed by your large army that they would forget to move out of your way! If they stayed in place, they might have been crushed!”

Prophet Sulaymān (ʿa) was surprised by the queen ant’s answer! She was so smart! He praised her intelligence and promised that her ants would not be hurt.

Now that they knew they were safe, all of the ants came out of their homes.

They waved goodbye to Prophet Sulaymān (ʿa) and his army as they continued on their way. The colony was thrilled to have met one of Allah's great messengers!



Did you know that ants can carry items in their mouths that are 50 times as heavy as they are?! That is the same as a human lifting a truck with his teeth! *SubḥānAllāh!**

Through the story of the ant colony, we see how Allah has blessed even the smallest creatures on Earth with intelligence and strength!

***Pronunciation Guide:**
ḥ is a heavy "ha" sound that comes from the middle of the throat

Family Time

حَتَّىٰ إِذَا أَتَوْا عَلَىٰ وَادِ النَّمْلِ قَالَتْ نَمْلَةٌ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّمْلُ ادْخُلُوا مَسَاكِنَكُمْ لَا يَحْطِمَنَّكُمْ سُلَيْمَانُ وَ جُنُودُهُ وَ هُمْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ

So, when they reached the valley of the ants, an ant said, "O ants, enter your homes, so that you are not crushed by Sulaymān and his army, while they are not paying attention." (27:18)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

When reading and learning about stories from the Qurʾān, it is important for us to reflect upon the lessons they teach us. In order to help your children internalize the lessons from this story, discuss the following questions:

1. Why did the queen ant ask all the other ants to rush into their homes and hide?
2. What did the intelligent queen ant worry about?
3. What is something that is very special about ants?
4. What lesson can we learn from this story?

Glossary

(ṣ): Peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muḥammad and his family

(swt): All glory belongs to God, the Glorified and Exalted

(ʿa): Peace and blessings be upon him/her

(ʿaj): May God hasten his reappearance

Ahl al-Bayt: Divinely appointed family members of Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ)

al-Fātiḥah: The first *sūrah* that is commonly recited and sent as a gift of prayer for the deceased

Alḥamdulillāh: All praise is for God

Allah: The Arabic term for God, a culmination of all His holy names and titles

Duʿā: Supplication; a deep connection and communication between an individual and God

Imām: A divinely appointed leader, sometimes refers to a spiritual leader

InshāʾAllāh: God-willing

Marḥūmīn: Someone who has passed away

Qurʾān: The holy book of Muslims

SubḥanAllāh: All Glory and Praise belongs to God

Sūrah: A chapter of the Qurʾān

Tawakkul: Reliance and trust in God

Tawfīq: Divine blessings from God that give one the opportunity and ability to thrive towards success

ʿUlamāʾ: Scholars

Transliteration Chart

Arabic terms in this book have been transliterated according to the following guidelines*:

ء	a, i, or u (initial form)
ء	ʾ (medial or final form)
ا	a
ب	b
ت	t
ث	th
ج	j
ح	ḥ
خ	kh
د	d
ذ	dh
ر	r
ز	z
س	s
ش	sh
ص	ṣ
ض	ḍ
ط	ṭ
ظ	ẓ
ع	ʿ
غ	gh
ف	f
ق	q
ك	k
ل	l
م	m
ن	n
ه	h
و	w
ي	y

ـَ	a
ـِ	i
ـُ	u
ـّ	double letter
آ / ـَا / ىٰ	ā
ـِي	ī
ـُو	ū

*Please note that due to limitations, the transliteration is not 100% accurate in capturing tajwīd rules.

Prophet Sulayman (a) and his army of Allah's creatures are on their way. Oh no, the ants think they are going to get squished! The Queen ant must think fast to save her colony! But she learns an important lesson from Prophet Sulayman (a). Read *Prophet Sulayman (a) and the Ants* to discover how all creatures, even the tiny ants, recognize the Greatness of Allah and His Prophets.

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